



Welcome

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays, I hope you all had a lovely, well-deserved break and are feeling ready for the new year and challenges ahead. This new year and half term brings some exciting units, mainly based on the theme of Space. This topic will be interwoven across the curriculum from literacy, to science, to art. We have been very lucky and have kindly had a telescope donated to us and I am hoping to get it set up so the children can get an insight into the much wider world around them. Happy New Year!

English

Our theme for this half term is 'Earthlings'. We will be starting off looking at a selection of sci-fiction stories and video clips, eventually writing our own version of one using all of the new vocabulary and grammar techniques we have learned. We will then move on to looking at information booklets and poems with a structure.



Maths

We will begin this half term looking at place value to 3 decimal places, being able to read, write, compare and order the numbers in lists and to place them on number lines in order to round them. We will also cover work on negative numbers, Roman numerals and some addition and subtraction.



Science

What on Earth is out there?



We will be looking at light, Earth and space in this unit. We will look at how light travels and the effects of the sun, moon and Earth on day and night and the seasons.

Guided Reading

The children will have Guided Reading for 20 minutes every day. The children will work in groups with an adult, independently on either pre-reading or follow up tasks, on the iPads to practice comprehension and one group will also have the opportunity to sit in the reading area and read a book of their choice for pleasure.

Geography

How does the solar system affect our geography?

We will begin this unit looking at different biomes and time zones around the world. We will study the effects that this has on what can grow and survive there, their geographical features and location on the planet.

Computing

Sound/ Computational thinking

We will be using the Garageband app to create a simple 4 chord song. We will then be editing, improving and remixing the original.



Art Painting

We will be using our topic of Space as a basis for our art unit. We will be using the media of paint to explore tints, tone and shade. We will be looking at the work of artist, Peter Thorpe, and using his style to create our own pieces.

PE

PE will take place on a Monday afternoon with Mr Ridge. This half term will be netball and dance.



French The Weather

We will be learning how to ask what the weather is like and the appropriate responses to go with the question.

Quel temps fait-il? Il fait froid!

RE

Hindu dharma

What might Hindu's learn from stories about Krishna?



PSHE

My Happy Mind

We will be moving on to the Appreciate module where we will learn skills to show our appreciation and how to get a deeper appreciation of the things we do have.

Music

This term we will be working with Mr Baines and creating our own Garage Band! We will be focussing on music from the 1980's and 1990's.

Reminders

Names – Please remember to write/stick your child's name on all their belongings, including water bottles and P.E. jackets. It really helps when things go missing!

PE – Mr Ridge will be teaching the children PE skills on Monday afternoons. The children should come to school in their PE kit on Mondays. Earring should **not** be worn for P.E. If they are unable to be removed due to being newly pierced, please make sure the children have some form of tape to cover them for safety reasons.

Homework – Last half term, the children produced some amazing work from the homework menu. Thank you for your time and support with homework, it is lovely to see what the children can create in their own time! Please continue to either email work across to myself or to bring it in to class when completed.

Reading at Home

Please make sure you continue to read on a regular basis. Children have access to change their books when necessary. Reading records will be checked on a Friday to ensure the children are reading at home. Please take the time to sign the reading records when you know your child has read at home, either independently or to you, we are collating the scores on a weekly basis to try and win green orbs for the class. Times they read at school are not included in the total.



Homework

The next half termly homework menu will be sent home, homework can be completed on paper or in books and handed in or emailed through to myself. There was some fantastic work produced last half-term and I look forward to seeing what is to come this time. The weekly spelling list will all be saved on the website spellingcity.com (unless your child has an individualised set) and paper copies will be given out on a Monday ready for a test the following Monday.

Extra Maths can be practised on Times Table Rock Stars and IXL.

The log in for Spelling City is: www.spellingcity.com/users/Harrisfive

There is no password for the children, if the address is typed exactly, it will log straight on to the site.

